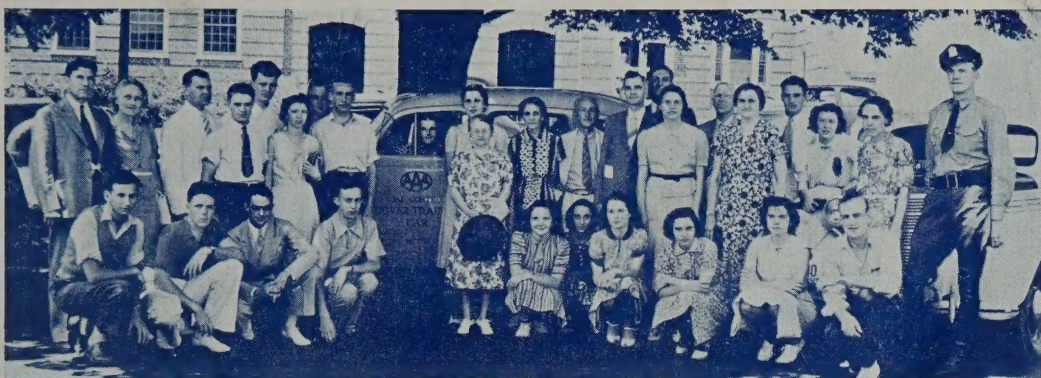


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# Driver Education and Training At V.P.I.

A COURSE FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OTHERS

Conducted by the Virginia Tech Summer Quarter in co-operation with the State Board of Education, the American Automobile Association, the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles, the District of Columbia Motor Club, the Western Virginia Motor Club, the Tidewater Automobile Association, the Automobile Club of Virginia, Inc.

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June 13 to July 19, 1940



## Driver Training Course Strongly Endorsed By Two Virginia Officials

"I hope that every principal will encourage one of his teachers to register for this course."

SIDNEY B. HALL

*State Superintendent of Public Instruction*

"Such a program is a sound approach to safer driving."

M. S. BATTLE

*Director Division of Motor Vehicles*



# *Opening New Opportunities for High School Teachers*

# **— A Course in Dr**

A recent survey was highly significant in indicating the field in which intensive safety educational efforts should be concentrated. This showed that automobile drivers 16 years of age had a driving record nine times worse, in terms of fatalities, than persons 45-50 years old, who had the best record. This ratio takes account of miles driven by each group.

Qualified, enthusiastic high school teachers in the new field of Driver Education and Training are facing an interesting and productive career. High interest among administrators and parents, in providing this instruction for high school students, has brought opportunity to teachers who have prepared themselves for this eventuality.

This course is designed to acquaint teachers with procedures peculiar to teaching both classroom and behind-the-wheel phases of high school instruction. Methods and techniques have had practical application, with marked success, in many high schools.

## **Content of Course**

Following are some of the subjects to be considered in the course: "The Driver," "Driver and Pedestrian Responsibilities," "Sound Driving Practices," "Society's Responsibilities," "How to Drive."

During the presentation of the text materials in the classroom and the road training in the car, the following important characteristics of drivers and how they affect sound and safe driving habits will be presented: (1) mental, physical and emotional characteristics; (2) knowledge; (3) driving skills; and (4) attitudes and appreciations.

## **Plan of Course**

Sessions will be held in a campus classroom and will be devoted to lectures and discussion. The practicum sessions, arranged according to the student-teacher's schedule, will be devoted to laboratory and road work, including teaching a new driver from "scratch," projects and demonstrations.

Requirements for the successful completion of

this course are: (1) to instruct a new driver so that he will successfully pass a test on the information found in the text pamphlets as well as rigorous road tests; (2) to complete an approved project in driver education and training; (3) to participate actively in classroom discussion; and (4) to complete all classroom and field work assignments.

It may be possible to have part of the classroom period used as a demonstration school; that is, the beginners being taught to drive by the student-teachers will attend the first part of the classroom sessions. This will give an opportunity to the student-teachers to observe how the college instructor conducts a high school course for beginners. The remainder of the classroom period will be devoted to discussion and to special projects.

## **Text Pamphlets**

A series of five text pamphlets, suitable as a comprehensive basis for classroom instruction and discussion, will be used. These pamphlets have



One of the important activities of the course is the development of a manual of instructional material. The work of the various groups, into which the class is divided, is consolidated at the end of the course and mimeographed so that each teacher has a copy.



Through the use of auxiliary clutch and brake pedals in dual-controlled driver training cars, smoothness of operation is developed and the danger of mishap is minimized. Methods of installing dual-control will be explained.



# ver Education and Training

been developed through the collaboration of two types of persons: (a) traffic specialists, and (b) teachers of broad experience.

In addition, valuable suggestions have been secured from a number of high school teachers as to the best methods of presenting these materials effectively to high school boys and girls.

## Teaching Aids

Recommendations will be presented concerning a number of valuable teaching aids, including motion pictures, classroom charts, lantern slides, film strips, and sound records. Blueprints are available for construction, in school shops, of various devices to test drivers.

## Selected Traffic Bibliography

A selected bibliography of reference material on traffic and safety will be made available to students. Many of the pamphlets and publications mentioned in this bibliography will be available for reference work in the Library.

## Dual-Control Driver Training Cars

It has been found that the use of dual-control driver training cars is extremely valuable in teaching beginners to drive. The dual-control consists of auxiliary clutch and brake pedals which enable the instructor to assume control if necessary. Through the cooperation of the Pontiac Motor Division of General Motors, the American Automobile Association has made 35 such cars available to high schools during the past year. It is hoped that the college will be able to arrange to have such a car available. Information will be furnished

on a practical method of installing dual-control for cars to be used by the student-teachers in their high schools.

## Record Forms

Suggested forms will be provided for the maintenance of proper records in connection with driver training schools which student-teachers may later conduct. Such forms have been developed through years of experience in this field, and are now actively used in several places.

## Driver Training Areas

General layout plans will be available for two types of driver training areas: (a) areas involving the use of quiet streets in a community, and (b) off-street training areas. Information will be furnished for the marking of streets, for direction signs, and on the type of stanchions and other devices to aid the training process.

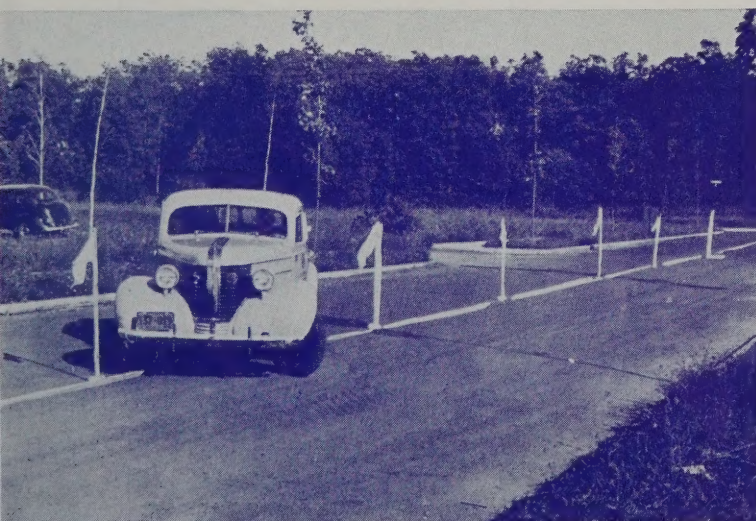
## Plans for Inaugurating Driver Training Courses

Student-teachers will be provided with information on how to set up driver training in high schools and communities. This information will include objectives of the general plan, standards found through experience to be desirable and advice on how to fit such a course into a high school program.

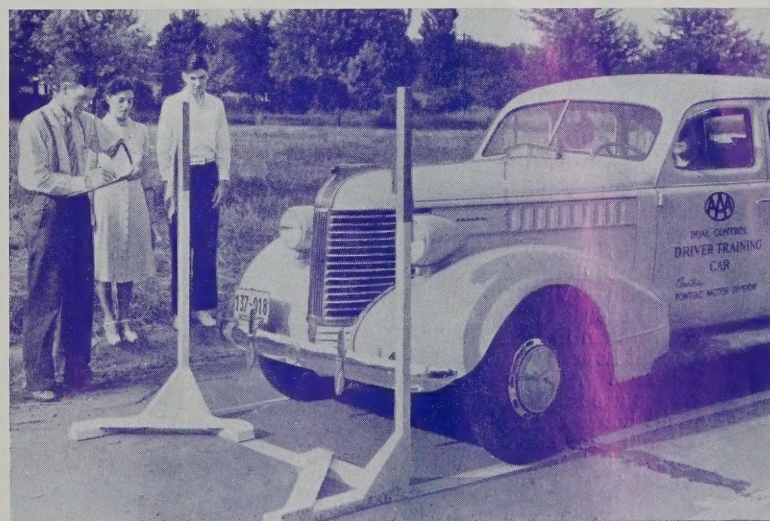
## Certificates

Suitable certificates have been designed and will be available for the following purposes:

- (a) *For student-teachers satisfactorily completing the summer session course.*
- (b) *For students satisfactorily completing a driver training course in high school.*



A quiet, well-marked practice street is used for the road instruction. Beginners' early driving habits thus are formed in lifelike situations. The photograph shows a typical use of stanchions and center line in developing steering skill.



Each teacher enrolled in the summer session course in Driver Education and Training is required to teach, under supervision, at least one student of high school age, how to drive. The teacher in the above photograph is giving one of the several tests for driving skill.



## FACULTY

Professor Henry C. Ahalt, who has been in charge of the driver education instruction at V. P. I. for the past two summers, will again this summer give the special course in "Driver Education and Training." He is a member of the mathematics department at V. P. I., obtained his B.S. degree from V. P. I. in 1923 and his E.E. degree from V. P. I. in 1925. In 1931, he received an M.A. degree from the University of Illinois. With his scientific background and his technical training, he is unusually well equipped to offer the course in "Driver Education and Training."

## FEE

The regular Summer Quarter fee \* will be charged for this course. In addition, there will be a practicum fee of \$7 collected to care for certain necessary expenses, such as text materials, teaching aids, gasoline, lubrication, and other operation expenses of the special dual-control driver-training cars.

## ROOM AND BOARD

Board in the college dining hall may be obtained for \$24 for the six weeks of the course. Room for men in the college dormitories during the term is \$12 for one in a room or \$8 each for two in a room. Room and board for women is available at somewhat higher rates. Room and board rates in greater detail may be obtained from the Summer Quarter Bulletin.

## CREDITS

For those satisfactorily completing the course, V. P. I. offers three (3) credits, which may be applied to a bachelor's degree in a curriculum in which the course is permitted as an elective. Credit for the completion of the course may be used toward the renewal of a teacher's certificate.

## CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Your attention is directed to the other courses offered at V. P. I. during the first term, namely: Conservation of Natural Resources, Rural Social Trends, and Problems in Science Teaching, which together with this course in Driver Education and Training, provide an opportunity for interested persons to arrange a full program of work around problems specifically related to special areas of science instruction. All of these courses are explained fully in the pamphlet mailed to the principal or superintendent. Additional information may be obtained from the Vocational Education Department, V. P. I.

\* The Summer Quarter fees as described in the Summer Quarter Bulletin follow:

Tuition — Virginia public school teachers in active service will be excused from paying tuition fee up to nine credit hours. Work taken in excess of this will be charged at the rate of \$5 a credit hour. Graduate students will be excused from all tuition fees. All students who are not included in the foregoing groups are required to pay tuition according to the number of credit hours for which they are registered, in either term, as follows: for 1 to 6 credit hours, \$15; for 6½ to 9 credit hours, \$20; for 9½ to 12 credit hours, \$30.

Registration — All students, including teachers and graduates, will be required to pay a registration fee of \$10 for each term. This includes library privileges, but not medical or hospital service.

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Since one of the requirements of this course is to teach a beginner from "scratch," each student-teacher thus gets practical experience in giving driving instruction. Shown in the photograph is a teacher explaining and demonstrating to a beginner the use of the clutch pedal.

## IDEAL FOR SUMMER STUDY

Virginia Tech's beautiful, shaded campus located 2100 feet above sea-level is ideally situated for making summer study pleasant. The physical education department offers opportunities for engaging in such sports as baseball, tennis, swimming, etc. Golf courses and famous summer resorts are located nearby. The first term will be held from June 13 to July 19 and the second term from July 29 to August 31. Courses are open to both men and women. Also during the summer, special meetings are scheduled for the Virginia Tech campus, most of which are open to Summer Quarter students, if they desire to attend.

Additional information about this course and the description of courses offered during the 1940 Summer Quarter may be obtained by writing:

Director, Summer Quarter  
Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia